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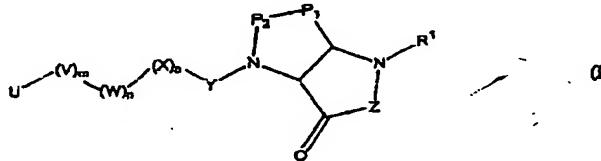
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(54) Title: BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE COMPOUNDS



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(57) **Abstract:** Compounds of general formula (I) wherein: Z = CR³R⁴, where R³ and R⁴ are independently chosen from C₀₋₇-alkyl P₁ = CR⁵R⁶, P₂ = O, CR⁷R⁸ or NR⁹, Y = CR¹⁰R¹¹-C(O) or CR¹⁰R¹¹-C(S) or CR¹⁰R¹¹-S(O) or CR¹⁰R¹¹-SO₂(X)_n = CR¹⁶R¹⁷ (W)_n = O, S, C(O), S(O) or S(O)₂- or NR¹⁸ (V)_m = C(O), C(S), S(O), S(O)₂; S(O)₂NH, OC(O), NHC(O), NHS(O), NHS(O)₂, OC(O)NH, C(O)NH or CR¹⁹R²⁰, C=N-C(O)-OR¹⁹ or C=N-C(O)-NHR¹⁹, U = a stable, 5- to 7-membered monocyclic or a stable 8- to 11-membered bicyclic ring which is either saturated or unsaturated, and which includes zero to four heteroatoms and their salts, hydrates, solvates, complexes and prodrugs are inhibitors of cathepsin K and other cysteine protease inhibitors and are useful as therapeutic agents, for example in osteoporosis, Paget's disease gingival diseases such as gingivitis and periodontitis, hypercalcaemia of malignancy, metabolic bone disease, diseases involving matrix or cartilage degradation, in particular osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis and neoplastic diseases. The compounds are also useful for validating therapeutic target compounds.